

## BULLER MEETS DISASTER.

(Continued from first page.)

eral hours. The British casualties were one man killed and seven wounded.

## GROWING DEATH LIST OF OFFICERS.

London, Dec. 15.—The following named officers of the Highland Brigade, who were reported missing after the battle of Magersfontein, were killed:

Captain the Hon. CUM. MING-BRIDGE, Lieutenant RAMSEY, Captain MACFARLANE, Captain BRODIE.

The following died of their wounds:

Colonel DOWNMAN, Lieutenant CAMPBELL.

## A FIGHT NEAR ORANGE RIVER.

A FORCE OF BOERS DRIVEN BACK FROM A RIVER FORD BY THE BRITISH.

London, Dec. 15.—The War Office has received the following dispatch:

From the officer commanding at Orange River, Thursday, December 14:

"Yesterday part of the mounted infantry under Captain Bradshaw and the Yorkshires and Lancashires, guided in the direction of Ramah and Zoutpan, about ten miles east of the Orange River, to reconnoitre and report the strength of the enemy reported to be holding the drift. The mounted infantry found a strong detachment of the enemy at the drift, and a sharp engagement ensued. The enemy ultimately retreated. Captain Bradshaw and three men were killed. Lieutenant Gresson, of the East Kent, and seven men were wounded. The Boers had five men killed and several wounded."

## BOERS REPULSED AT MAFEKING.

THE FACT OFFICIALLY ADMITTED IN A PRETORIA DISPATCH.

Pretoria, Dec. 11.—It is officially announced that Mafeking was not, as reported, bombarded December 11. Sharp fighting occurred.

The Boers attacked a British post at Mafeking during the night of December 7. After several fighting the Boers were repulsed and retired to Snyman's Fort.

## ENGLAND AND DELAGOA RAY.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—The Foreign Office asserts that nothing is known regarding the alleged intention of England to occupy Delagoa Bay forcibly.

## MACDONALD ORDERED TO AFRICA.

THE HERO OF OMDURMAN TO COMMAND A DIVISION OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

London, Dec. 15.—Considerable satisfaction is felt both in military and civilian circles by the announcement that General Hector Macdonald, whose splendid defeat of the Derwishes' flank attack at Omdurman turned a critical situation into a British victory, has been ordered to leave India immediately, to succeed the late General Wauchope in command of the Highland Brigade.

General Tucker, commanding at Secunderabad, has also been ordered to the Cape, to command a division.

## Colonel Hector Archibald Macdonald, of the Royal Fusiliers, has risen from the ranks since 1880. He was his name conspicuous for repeated acts of bravery while serving as a private in the Afghan war. He obtained his commission at the age of twenty-seven, eight years from the date of his enlistment. He has already served in the Transvaal, having been captured in 1881, after a fierce fight, at Majuba Hill. Until he was summoned to go to South Africa on September 1, his most recent service had been at Omdurman, where he commanded a Sudanese regiment. His distinguished service in the Sudan war was only the beginning of a long series which began with the expedition to Cabul with Sir Frederick Roberts, and included the Nile expedition, the Sudan war, and the Boer war. Until May of the present year, he has since 1880 reformed been out of Africa. He knows Arabic so well that he has almost given an account of his life in his own language. He is a Highlander, and on his return home the combined Highland associations in London gave him the sword of solid gold, inscribed with "Ruler and Defender."

## TO FORCE BRITISH RECOGNITION.

BOER GOVERNMENT'S LATEST REPLY TO MR. MACRUM'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.

Lourenço Marques, Dec. 13.—Charles Macrum, late United States Consul at Pretoria, will leave here for New-York Saturday, December 16. W. Stanley Hollis, the United States Consul here, will assume the duties of Mr. Macrum's office until the arrival of the latter's successor.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Mr. Macrum, United States Consul at Pretoria, has cabled the State Department that the Transvaal Government has informed him that full reports will be given through the War Office of the republic of the names and condition of British prisoners when applied for by British authorities. Mr. Macrum preferred a request for information on this point some time ago, and it was at first refused. Now, however, that the assent of the Boer Government is given, it is noted that their response is not complete. They will not furnish Mr. Macrum himself with the information, but oblige the British to make application to the Boer War Office. This is a small matter, but it is said to be indicative of an intention on the part of the Boers to force formal recognition of their independence in every official communication by the British Government.

Mr. Macrum has succeeded in another undertaking, having secured the release of the British subject Robertson, a civilian, who had been arrested by the Boers and confined at Pretoria on charges of being a spy. Upon Mr. Macrum's representations the Transvaal Government has released Robertson on condition that he leave the country at once and remain out of it.

## STORY OF THE IRISH MUTINY DENIED.

Waterford, Ireland, Dec. 15.—The story printed in "The Freeman's Journal" to the effect that the Reserves of the Royal Irish Regiment while embarking on their way to South Africa at this point on Wednesday sang "God Save Ireland," cheered the Boers and President Kruger and threw their rifles into the river, is absolutely unfounded. Nothing whatever occurred among the men of the 1st and 2nd Divisions of the Irish Regt. who were embarked at Liverpool on December 15 and 16 and chartered at 3-16.

Two additional failures announced on the Stock Exchange today were of little importance.

## MR. DAVIS SAILS FOR THE CAPE.

London, Dec. 15.—Webster Davis, Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior at

Washington, sails for Cape Town to-morrow on the steamer Mexican. He expects to visit the Transvaal.

Hugo de Bathe, Mrs. Langtry's husband, will also sail on the Mexican.

## DEEP GLOOM IN LONDON.

London, Dec. 16.—The depression over the defeat of Great Britain's trusted and idolized commander is all the greater, as during the last forty-eight hours there had been reports of the relief of Ladysmith. Yesterday the War Office allowed it to be understood that the position of affairs in Natal was entirely satisfactory. The reaction is all the more pronounced on this account.

The gloomy information came too late to reach the Service Clubs, and only a few journalists and stragglers were waiting at the War Office. It has hardly been realized until now, even after the experience of the week, that General Buller could fail.

Virtually nothing had been allowed to leak through regarding his preparations, but the public waited patiently, in the confident belief that he was taking such time and precautions as would insure success.

No independent reports of the engagement have yet been allowed to come through; but General Buller's own dispatch tells the sad tale in sufficient outline to show that the British have been trapped again by the astute Boers. It was not anticipated that General Buller would make a frontal attack; but no criticisms of his movements are made, since apparently he suffered a repulse rather than a defeat, and did not push the attack home, but broke it off in the middle so as to save a useless sacrifice of life.

It is expected that he will renew the attack shortly. Immediately on receiving the news the War Office decided to mobilize still another division, and to replace the losses of artillery. The necessary reinforcements will be hurried off as speedily as possible.

## COMMENTS OF LONDON PRESS.

London, Dec. 16.—The news of General Buller's reverse was received so late that morning newspaper comment to-day is confined to perfunctory expressions of extreme regret and disappointment, and of the necessity of calmness and redoubled efforts to retrieve the position. The latest check is regarded as the most serious event in Great Britain's military history since the Indian Mutiny. "The Standard" says:

"General Buller's dispatch is deplorable reading, and of British troops marching up blindly almost to the very muzzles of the enemy's guns. It cannot be doubted that the moral effect will be to aggravate our difficulties over the whole field of operations. The country has discovered with amazement and surprise that the Boers have and at every office visited it was emphatically declared that no party of Irish-Americans had been booked for trust of the promise, services in every direction had come to the agents of the respective lines."

"The Times" says:

"Since the days of the Indian Mutiny the nation has not been confronted with so painful and anxious a situation. Plainly, General Buller's advance is paralyzed for the moment as completely as Lord Methuen's and General Gatacre's."

## PRO-BOER IRISHMEN NOT SHIPPED HERE.

The report which came from Cleveland a few days ago, that a party of twenty-five young Irish-Americans had left that city for New-York, whence they were to take a steamer for Europe to-day, with the intention of joining the Boer side in South Africa, was carefully investigated, and as well as the report arrived, and could not be verified at either time, the story was laughed at, and at every office visited it was emphatically declared that no party of Irish-Americans had been booked for trust of the promise, services in every direction had come to the agents of the respective lines."

## FUND FOR BOER WIDOWS AND ORPHANS.

A fund known as "The American Transvaal Fund to Aid Widows and Orphans of the Boers" has been started to swell a similar fund begun by the Afrikaner and Bond members of Parliament of Cape Colony. The appeal sent out by the committee to Cape Town to their countrymen is in part as follows:

It is not our object to inquire to whom all this misery and calamity which await our countrymen, owing to the existing circumstances, are due. Enough, however, is known to excite our sympathy, and to lead us to the conclusion that the Boer war is a terrible and a long series which began with the expedition to Cabul with Sir Frederick Roberts, and included the Nile expedition, the Sudan war, and the Boer war. Until May of the present year, he has since 1880 reformed been out of Africa. He knows Arabic so well that he has almost given an account of his life in his own language. He is a Highlander, and on his return home the combined Highland associations in London gave him the sword of solid gold, inscribed with "Ruler and Defender."

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## ARMY AND NAVY ORDERS.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The following Army and Navy orders have been issued:

## ARMY.

Captain EDWIN R. BUTLER, assistant quartermaster, under orders to proceed to San Francisco, is honorably discharged.

Leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted to Second Lieutenant CHARLES S. FOSTER, 9th Infantry, October 29, is extended one month.

Leave of absence for one month is granted to Captain HOBART K. BAILEY, 15th Infantry.

Captain J. L. LUTLEY, 15th Infantry, when relieved from recruiting duty at Baltimore, will await the arrival of his regiment from Cuba, when he will proceed to San Francisco.

Leave of absence granted to First Lieutenant WILLIAM H. HERTSCH, 15th Infantry, to visit his wife and children at San Francisco, is extended one month.

First Lieutenant DOUGLAS SETTLER, 10th Infantry, will proceed, when relieved from recruiting duty at Raleigh, N. C., to Fort Mackenzie, and enter on duty at that post.

First Lieutenant HENRY G. LYON, 24th Infantry, will be relieved from Fort Harrison, Montana, and will proceed to Washington and report to the General Hospital, Washington Barracks, for surgical treatment.

The extension of leave of absence granted to Second Lieutenant FRANK E. HARKINS, 13th Infantry, then second lieutenant, 3d Infantry, October 5, is further extended one month.

Leave of absence for three months on account of sickness is granted to Major LYNN A. MATTHE, 14th Infantry.

Captain FREDERICK P. REYNOLDS, assistant surgeon, will proceed from New-York City on the transport "Albatross" to Manila, for assignment.

The order of leave of absence granted to Captain LAWRENCE J. HEARN, 21st Infantry, November 20, is changed to leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability, and he has permission to apply for an extension of one month.

Leave of absence granted to First Lieutenant JOHN W. CHAIR, 1st Cavalry, November 21, is extended one month.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted to Captain EDWIN R. BUTLER, 9th Infantry, 17th Infantry, October 29, is extended one month.

Colonel JACOB B. RAWLINS, 3d Artillery, is detailed as a member of the Board of the President's Commission on San Francisco, vice Lieutenant Colonel Wallace F. Randolph, 3d Artillery (now Colonel, 1st Artillery).

First Lieutenant GEORGE H. MANNING, 3d Artillery, is promoted from the 1st to the 3d Artillery, and will report to the Examining Board at the Presidio to determine his fitness for promotion.

## NAVY.

Captain A. S. SNOW is assigned to additional duty as chief of staff, North Atlantic Station.

Captain T. F. JEWELL is detached from command of the Brooklyn, ordered home and awaits orders.

Captain J. H. HARRIS is assigned to additional duty in charge of Fifth Lightship Division, Baltimore.

Lieutenant Commander J. M. HELM is assigned to additional duty in charge of Fifteenth Lightship Division, District, St. Louis.

Lieutenant Commander W. P. DAY will resume duties as commander of the Vixen.

Lieutenant R. B. BUTLER is assigned to additional duty as navigator of the Vixen.

Ensign F. N. FREEMAN is detached from the Vixen and ordered to lie duties on the Massachusetts, December 18.

Lieutenant Commander W. B. CAPERTON is ordered to the Navy Yard, Norfolk, December 21.

Lieutenant J. H. KAY is ordered to the Independence January 6.

Commander C. P. PERKINS, order of December 11 detaching from command of the Albatross, is ordered to the Albatross, December 11.

Changes of officers on the Asiatic Station:

Ensign D. W. WURTEMBERG and H. E. VARNELL, detached from the Yorktown and ordered to the Albany.

Lieutenant C. THOMAS is detached from the Baltimore and ordered home.

## THE CIVIL SERVICE REFORM LEAGUE.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE INDIANAPOLIS MEETING.

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—At the business session of the National Civil Service League to-day all the old officers were re-elected, and resolutions which read in part as follows were adopted:

The league regards the order issued by the President on May 29 last, withdrawing several thousand places from the classified service, and the change of the law, as the first unmistakable backward step taken by the Federal Administration since the passage of the Civil Service Law.

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## TWO PERMITS REVOKED.

AUTOMOBILES OF MESSRS. RICE AND SELIGMAN DO NOT SUIT MR. CLAUSEN.

Commissioner Clausen has revoked the permits granted to Jefferson Seligman, of No. 21 Broad-st., and to Isaac L. Rice, of No. 20 Broad-st., to operate electric automobile carriages in Central Park.

The reason for the revocation of these permits was that both had sent automobile cabs or coaches into the Park; Mr. Rice on Thursday and Mr. Seligman a few days ago. As far as is known Mr. Seligman was not compelled to show his permit for the cab, but on Thursday the coach sent in by Mr. Rice was stopped every few yards or so.

Thursday afternoon one of the old fashioned electric coaches operated by a man in uniform entered at Fifty-ninth-st. and Eighth-ave. The permit of Mr. Rice was shown and the coach was allowed to enter the Park. Commissioner Clausen happened to be driving in the Park at the time. He passed the electric automobile coach, and, looking about, rode up to the operator and looked at him closely.

Captain England of the Park Squad came along, and Commissioner Clausen ordered him to stop the cab. Captain England went up to the cab, and the operator displayed a permit signed by Commissioner Clausen and granted to Mr. Rice. Captain England reported to Commissioner Clausen that the cab was allowed to enter the Park. But it soon became known that an electric coach had been stopped in the Park by order of Commissioner Clausen, and every policeman stopped the cab. The annoyance was so great that the cab left the Park.

Yesterday Commissioner